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2010 MAY 14 PM 4:41

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent No. 6,951,185  
Appln. No. 10/688,620  
First Named Applicant: MICHAEL J WIESE  
Filed: 10/17/2003  
For: FLAG POLE  
TC/A.U.: 2859  
Examiner: Smith, Richard A

Adjustment date: 06/01/2010 DALLEN  
09/28/2009 HMARZ11 00000002 10688620  
01 FC:2253 ) -555.00 OP  
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)  
06/01/2010 DALLEN ) 00000005 6951185  
01 FC:1599 ) 490.00 OP  
)

Attention: Office of Petitions  
Mail Stop Petitions  
Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office  
Post Office Box 1450  
Arlington, VA 22313-1450

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EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

"Express Mail" Label Number EG260896815US  
Date of Deposit: May 10, 2010

I hereby state that the following *attached* paper or fee

Petition to Accept Unintentionally Delayed Payment of Maintenance Fee  
Transmittal Letter and Explanation of Previous Payment of Maintenance Fee  
Copy of "Fee Record Sheet"  
Check in the amount of \$1640  
Postcard

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. section 1.10, on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop Petitions, Commissioner for Patents, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Jeffrey A. Proehl

Adjustment date: 06/01/2010 DALLEN  
09/28/2009 HMARZ11 00000002 10688620  
01 FC:2253 ) -555.00 OP

06/01/2010 DALLEN 00000006 6951185  
01 FC:1599 1640.00 OP

Signature of person mailing paper or fee

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent No. 6,951,185 )  
Appln. No. 10/688,620 )  
First Named Applicant: MICHAEL J WIESE )  
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Post Office Box 1450  
Arlington, VA 22313-1450

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR PETITION TO ACCEPT  
UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED PAYMENT OF MAINTENANCE FEE IN  
AN EXPIRED PATENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.378(c)**

**AND**

**EXPLANATION OF PREVIOUS PAYMENT OF MAINTENANCE FEE**

Submitted herewith is a "Petition To Accept Unintentionally Delayed Payment Of Maintenance Fee In An Expired Patent Under 37 C.F.R. §1.378(C)" (Form PTO/SB/66) for the above identified U.S. Patent No. 6,951,185.

Submitted with this Transmittal and Petition is the payment of the fee under 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2) in the form of a check made out to the U.S.P.T.O. in the amount of \$1640.00.

Please note that the maintenance fee due at 3.5 years was previously submitted for this patent, as evidenced by the attached "Fee Record Sheet"

(PTO-1556) that references application no. 10/688,620 and indicates receipt by the U.S.P.T.O. of \$555.00 (\$490.00 for the maintenance fee plus \$65.00 for the surcharge) on September 29, 2009.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-3041 (Woods, Fuller, Shultz and Smith P.C.).

Respectfully submitted,

WOODS, FULLER, SHULTZ & SMITH P.C.



Date:

May 10, 2010

Jeffrey A. Proehl (Reg. No. 35,987)

Customer No. **40,158**

P.O. Box 5027

Sioux Falls, SD 57117-5027

(605)336-3890 FAX (605)339-3357

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PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 10 688 620

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
FEE RECORD SHEET

09/28/2009 HMARZ11 00000002 10688620

01 FC:2253

555.00 DP

PTO-1556  
(5/87)

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number

**PETITION TO ACCEPT UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED PAYMENT OF  
MAINTENANCE FEE IN AN EXPIRED PATENT (37 CFR 1.378 (c))**

Docket Number (Optional)

30759

Mail to: Mail Stop Petition  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Fax: (571) 273-8300

NOTE: If information or assistance is needed in completing this form, please contact Petitions Information at (571) 272-3282.

Patent No. 6951185Application Number 10688620Issue Date 10/04/2005Filing Date 10/17/2003

CAUTION: Maintenance fee (and surcharge, if any) payment must correctly identify: (1) the patent number (or reissue patent number, if a reissue) and (2) the application number of the actual U.S. application (or reissue application) leading to issuance of that patent to ensure the fee(s) is/are associated with the correct patent. 37 CFR 1.366(c) and (d).

**Also complete the following information, if applicable**

The above – identified patent

☐

Is a reissue of original Patent No. \_\_\_\_\_ original issue date \_\_\_\_\_

original application number \_\_\_\_\_

original filing date \_\_\_\_\_

☐

resulted from the entry into the U.S. under 35 U.S.C. 371 of international application \_\_\_\_\_

filed on \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.89(a))**

I hereby certify that this paper (\*along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class main in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

05-10-2010

Date

Wanita Jacobsma  
Signature

Wanita Jacobsma

Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

[page 1 of 3]

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.378(c). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

## 1. SMALL ENTITY

☒ Patentee claims, or has previously claimed, small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

## 2. LOSS OF ENTITLEMENT TO SMALL ENTITY STATUS

☐ Patentee is no longer entitled to small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)

## 3. MAINTENANCE FEE (37 CFR 1.20(e)-(g))

The appropriate maintenance fee must be submitted with this petition, unless it was paid earlier.

NOT Small Entity			Small Entity		
Amount	Fee	(Code)	Amount	Fee	(Code)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	3 ½ yr fee	(1551)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$ 490	3 ½ yr fee	(2551)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	7 ½ yr fee	(1552)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	7 ½ yr fee	(2552)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	11 ½ yr fee	(1553)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	11 ½ yr fee	(2553)

MAINTENANCE FEE BEING SUBMITTED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## 4. SURCHARGE

The surcharge required by 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2) of \$ 1640 (Fee Code 1558) must be paid as a condition of accepting unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee.

SURCHARGE FEE BEING SUBMITTED \$ 1640

## 5. MANNER OF PAYMENT

☒ Enclosed is a check for the sum of \$ 1640

☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

## 6. AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE ANY FEE DEFICIENCY

☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any maintenance fee, surcharge or petition deficiency to Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_

## 7. OVERPAYMENT

As to any overpayment made please

OR

Credit to Deposit Account No. 503041

Send refund check

**WARNING:**

Petitioner/applicant is cautioned to avoid submitting personal information in documents filed in a patent application that may contribute to identity theft. Personal information such as social security numbers, bank account numbers, or credit card numbers (other than a check or credit card authorization form PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes) is never required by the USPTO to support a petition or an application. If this type of personal information is included in documents submitted to the USPTO, petitioners/applicants should consider redacting such personal information from the documents before submitting them to the USPTO. Petitioner/applicant is advised that the record of a patent application is available to the public after publication of the application (unless a non-publication request in compliance with 37 CFR 1.213(a) is made in the application or issuance of a patent. Furthermore, the record from an abandoned application may also be available to the public if the application is referenced in a published application or an issued patent (see 37 CFR 1.14). Checks and credit card authorization forms PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes are not retained in the application file and therefore are not publicly available.

## 8. STATEMENT

The delay in payment of the maintenance fee to this patent was unintentional.

## 9. PETITIONER(S) REQUEST THAT THE DELAYED PAYMENT OF THE MAINTENANCE FEE BE ACCEPTED AND THE PATENT REINSTATED



Signature(s) of Petitioner(s)

2010-05-07

Date

Jeffrey A. Proehl

Typed or printed name(s)

35987

Registration Number, if applicable

605-336-3890

Telephone Number

P. O. Box 5027

Address

Sioux Falls SD 57117-5027

Address

37 CFR 1.378(d) states: "Any petition under this section must be signed by an attorney or agent registered to practice before the Patent and Trademark Office, or by the patentee, the assignee, or other party in interest."

## ENCLOSURES



Maintenance Fee Payment



Surcharge under 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2) (fee for filing the maintenance fee petition)

